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MONTANA ECONOMY AT A GLANCE

January 2002

UNEMPLOYMENT BY COUNTY

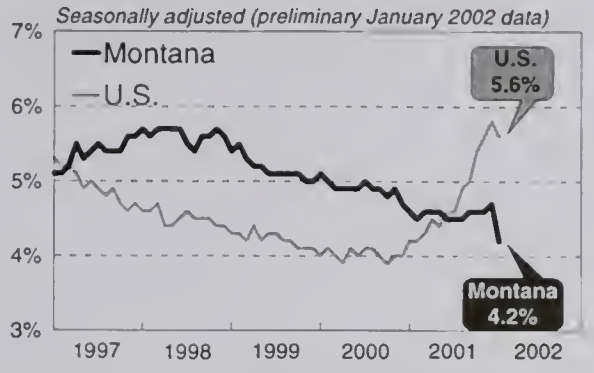
Not seasonally adjusted

	Jan 2001	Jan 2002*
UNITED STATES	4.7%	6.3%
MONTANA	5.7%	5.3%
Cascade **	5.4%	4.7%
Missoula **	4.3%	4.5%
Yellowstone **	3.7%	3.8%
Beaverhead	4.4%	3.6%
Big Horn	18.5%	16.7%
Blaine	8.4%	7.2%
Broadwater	7.0%	5.3%
Carbon	5.7%	5.0%
Carter	1.9%	2.0%
Chouteau	3.5%	3.3%
Custer	6.1%	4.5%
Daniels	3.5%	2.9%
Dawson	3.8%	3.3%
Deer Lodge	8.0%	6.8%
Fallon	3.8%	3.3%
Fergus	8.4%	6.2%
Flathead	7.2%	7.0%
Gallatin	2.8%	2.6%
Garfield	4.2%	2.9%
Glacier	14.3%	11.9%
Golden Valley	6.7%	5.2%
Granite	11.0%	7.8%
Hill	4.9%	3.7%
Jefferson	5.3%	6.1%
Judith Basin	6.8%	6.7%
Lake	11.7%	10.6%
Lewis & Clark	5.0%	5.1%
Liberty	2.0%	3.3%
Lincoln	12.8%	11.9%
McCone	3.8%	2.2%
Madison	6.2%	4.2%
Meagher	8.7%	7.6%
Mineral	12.4%	10.1%
Musselshell	9.4%	10.7%
Park	6.4%	5.8%
Petroleum	6.7%	3.5%
Phillips	6.9%	5.5%
Pondera	4.9%	4.6%
Powder River	2.5%	3.6%
Powell	5.0%	6.4%
Prairie	8.7%	5.6%
Ravalli	6.6%	6.2%
Richland	4.9%	5.1%
Roosevelt	9.2%	7.8%
Rosebud	9.2%	6.7%
Sanders	11.1%	10.7%
Sheridan	4.0%	4.6%
Silver Bow	6.8%	5.8%
Stillwater	4.0%	4.3%
Sweet Grass	4.1%	5.4%
Teton	4.7%	4.9%
Toole	2.8%	2.8%
Treasure	2.1%	5.3%
Valley	5.3%	4.4%
Wheatland	4.5%	6.9%
Wibaux	4.8%	2.4%

**January 2002 rate preliminary*
*** Cascade=Great Falls MSA*
Missoula= Missoula MSA
Yellowstone=Billings MSA

JANUARY 2002 HIGHLIGHTS

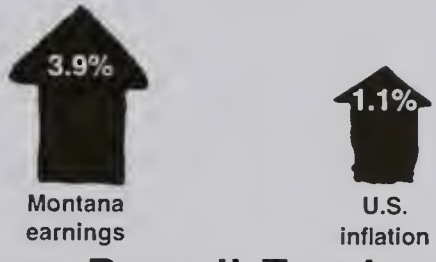
Unemployment



Montana's 4.2 percent unemployment rate in January was 1.4 percentage points below the national rate.

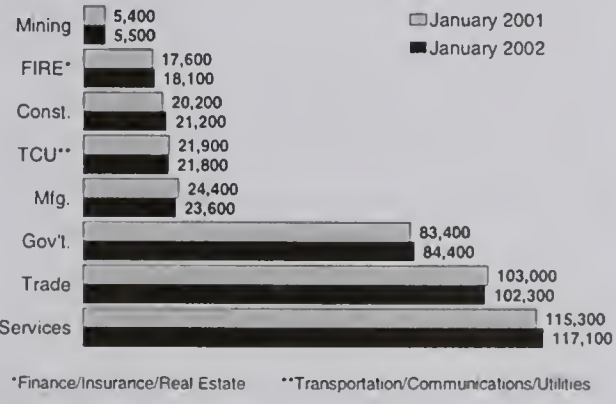
Earnings

Average weekly earnings for Montana's private sector workers were up 3.9 percent over the year in January, while U.S. inflation increased 1.1 percent.



Nonag Payroll Employment

Montana Jobs (Seasonally Adjusted)



Seasonally adjusted, Montana's nonagricultural payroll employment in January was up 0.7 percent over the year. Services was up 1,800 jobs—manufacturing down 800.

NAICS COMING SOON

The Research and Analysis Bureau will soon begin releasing industrial employment and wage statistics under the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

A replacement for the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system, NAICS will allow more detailed classification of firms based on production processes.

- Statewide Covered Employment and Wage program (ES-202) data will be available on our website this fall.
- Other statistical data series will also be converting to NAICS in the near future.

ONLINE AT

Research & Analysis Bureau
Workforce Services Division
Montana Dept. of Labor & Industry
840 Helena Ave.
P.O. Box 1728
Helena MT 59624
406-444-2430
Fax 406-444-2638
TDD 406-444-0532
http://rad.dli.state.mt.us/

LOOKING FOR STATS IN BRIEF?

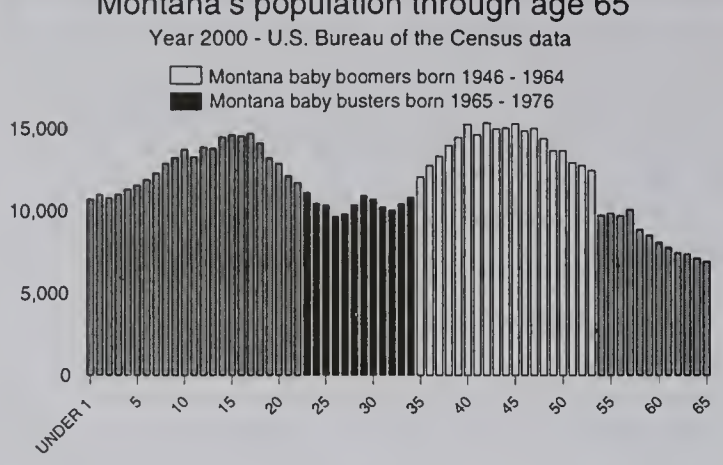
Our monthly *Statistics in Brief* publication is on our Internet website exclusively. Here's how to find it:

- Go to http://rad.dli.state.mt.us/
- Click on "Publications & Other Data"
- Then click on "Statistics in Brief"

We will do our best to provide information in accessible format, on request, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

3,300 copies of this publication were produced at a unit cost of 40 cents per copy for a total cost of $1,325.00, which includes $203.00 for printing and $1,122.00 for distribution.

WILL THERE BE ENOUGH REPLACEMENT WORKERS WHEN MONTANA'S BABY BOOMERS RETIRE?



Boom-and-bust birth cycles eventually affect the labor force.

As with the rest of the nation, more Montanans were born during the post World War II baby boom of 1946–1964 than were born during the baby bust period of 1965-1976.

When the leading edge of the Montana baby boomers (ages 35-53 in 2000) approaches normal retirement age in 10 years, there probably will not be enough baby busters (ages 23-34 in 2000) to fill all the vacated jobs.

Possible solutions would be:

- for baby boomers not to retire early
- incentives for baby boomers to work after normal retirement age
- net in-migration into Montana of baby-bust aged workers
- using fewer workers to provide goods and services.

Return in 5 days to:
Research & Analysis Bureau
Workforce Services Division
Montana Department of Labor & Industry
P.O. Box 1728
Helena MT 59624-1728

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